

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough examination and search of the subject patent application.

Claims 15, 17, 27 and 30 are pending. Claims 1-14, 16, 18-26, 28-29, and 31-32 have been canceled.

Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103

*Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 15, 16, 20, 27-29 and 33 as being anticipated by Danovitch (U.S. Pub. 2004/0175657) and of Claims 17-19 and 30-32 as being unpatentable over Danovitch (U.S. Pub. 2004/0175657) in view of Ying (U.S. Pub. 2004/0209476) is requested based on the following paragraph.*

Please see the attached 1.131 Declaration, which is being submitted to swear behind the reference U.S. Pub. 2004/0175657. With submission of the 1.131 Declaration, the reference is removed as prior art and the rejection is believed moot.

For at least the foregoing reasons, applicants respectfully submit independent claims 15 and 27 patently distinguish over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 17 and 30 patently define over the prior art as well.

*Reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 21, 22 and 26 as being anticipated by Broz (U.S. Pub. 2004/0115934) and of Claims 23-35 as being unpatentable over Broz (U.S. Pub. 2004/0115934) in view of Ying (U.S. Pub. 2004/0209476) is requested based on canceling Claims 21-26.*

CONCLUSION

Some or all of the pending claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of the claims and of the application as a whole is respectfully requested.

It is requested that should the Examiner not find that the Claims are now Allowable that the Examiner call the undersigned at 845-452-5863 to overcome any problems preventing allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SBA', written over a horizontal line.

Stephen B. Ackerman, Reg. No. 37,761